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## YUGOSLAV PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND TECHNICAL SOCIETIES

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Technical societies of engineers and technicians in the republics and a federal association of these societies were established in the postwar period. These societies include engineers and technicians of all kinds, students of advanced technical schools and colleges which offer courses of more than four semesters, senior-year students from all departments of the secondary technical schools, and inventors, innovators, and rationalizers from the ranks of the workers.

Historians, physicists, mathematicians, geographers, biologists, chemists, teachers, librarians, etc., have also organized their own technical societies on their own initiative and with the help of the Federal Ministry of Education and Culture. Physicians, film, theatrical, and music workers, lawyers, economists, etc., also have their societies and associations. The Serbian Medical Society is among these.

In addition to these societies, Yugoslavia has several professional associations. All the republics except Montenegro have associations of university teachers, which include teaching, research, and auxiliary-teaching personnel in the universities and other advanced institutions of learning, and research workers in academies of science and their institutes and in independent scientific institutes.

Sculptors have organized professional associations in all the republics, as well as the Association of Yugoslav Sculptors. Journalists have organized journalism clubs in the large cities, associations of journalists in the republics, and the Association of Yugoslav Journalists. Pensioners have associations in all the republics except Macedonia, and are faced with the task of forming a central association for all Yugoslavia.

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The basic functions of the technical societies and associations are to work for the advancement of their respective branches of learning, unite theory and practice, carry over and apply practical experience toward strengthening socialism in Yugoslavia, learn and apply the scientific achievements of other countries, popularize science, culture, and the fine arts among the masses, provide for the technical, ideological, and political enlightenment of their members, etc. Some associations have also set themselves the goal of procuring good working and living conditions for their members.

Professional associations and technical societies, therefore, supplement or entirely replace trade unions in the substance and character of their work. The most characteristic example of the relation and cooperation between union organizations and societies or associations which supplement their work is that of the societies of engineers and technicians. These include engineers and technicians who work in establishments, factories, enterprises, etc., students in technical colleges and secondary schools, and a considerable number of intellectual workers who are not and could not be members of unions. The majority of other professional societies are largely organized in only one union. For instance, most physicians who are members of medical societies are also members of the Union of Medical Workers. Most members of legal associations are also members of the Union of Civil Service Employees. The majority of members of societies of historians, geographers, mathematicians, physicists, teachers, etc., and a smaller number of members of societies of university teachers are also members of the Union of Teachers and Instructors. Therefore, when cooperation between societies and unions is discussed, unions which include the majority of the members of individual societies are meant.

Technical societies should transfer the rich organizational experience and tradition of the unions to their organizations. Unions carry on the political struggle, develop ideas and criticism, utilize various work forms and methods in their organizational and professional development, care for the material and other needs of their members, etc. Unions, societies, and associations should coordinate and work together in the struggle to purify science and the humanities, as opposed to former conceptions and world views of science, education, etc. Societies of educated workers should be especially active in this direction and cooperate closely with the Union of Teachers and Secondary School Instructors and with the associations of university teachers.

Technical societies have set themselves the task of popularizing science and the humanities for the masses. Union organizations should organize lectures, social functions, meetings, and conferences where the members will participate in transferring their knowledge and experience toward educating the masses and building socialism. Union organizations, for instance, established good cooperation with legal associations in explaining the law on the responsibilities of unions in administering enterprises and higher associations of enterprises. This cooperation should be developed further and extended toward establishing union programs for training workers in administering enterprises. Likewise, societies of economists and lawyers should work toward the economic education of the members of workers' councils and other workers. Societies of engineers should also cooperate closely with unions and administrative councils of enterprises in preparing and organizing socialist competitions among workers.

The law passed by the 13th Plenum calls for the associations of university teachers, associations of pensioners, and the Association of Yugoslav Sculptors to join the Association of Yugoslav Unions, and for their members to be acknowledged as members of unions. On the basis of this law, the associations of university teachers in Belgrade, Zagreb, Sarajevo, and Skoplje, the Association of Yugoslav Sculptors, and the associations of pensioners of all the republics except Macedonia, where there is still no association of pensioners, were admitted to the Association of Yugoslav Unions. These

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associations have retained their previous internal organizational structure, names, and areas of activity, and, at the same time, have acquired the rights, position, and functions of individual unions. The former dual membership and duplication of work have been abolished. The associations have become union organizations for their members. Administrative and other auxiliary personnel in universities, colleges, and other advanced schools, art academies, etc., have their own respective union branches within the Union of Civil Service Employees.

The necessity for joining the Association of Yugoslav Unions applies especially to associations of university teachers and the Association of Yugoslav Sculptors.

Until the 13th Plenum, members of associations of university teachers and of the Association of Yugoslav Sculptors were also members of branches of the Union of Educated Workers. As the principle of industrial organization was applied in the Union of Educated Workers, university teachers and sculptors thus found themselves in the same union branches as administrative and auxiliary personnel. This meant great inequality on the intellectual level and in the nature of the union's activity, so that the development of the organization and the ideological and political enlightenment of its members were hindered. This type of branch union prevented the professional advancement of university teachers and other members of the associations, including sculptors, and hindered the solution of problems in education, the school system, fine arts, and culture. Because of its heterogeneous composition, the Union of Educated Workers gave little aid to university teachers and sculptors in their work. Before its reorganization, the Union of Educated Workers included educated blue- and white-collar workers from diverse professions and branches of work. Secondary-school teachers and instructors should have derived the most benefit from a union of this kind, for they had the largest number of members and the largest representation in the management of the union. However, neither the teachers nor instructors in the secondary schools could find sufficient attention given to their problems within the former union and so had formed their own Union of Teachers and Secondary School Instructors, which excluded administrative and auxiliary personnel in the elementary and secondary schools.

In the same way, the Union of Newspaper Printers was unsuitable for journalists. Since journalists are only a small proportion of the blue- and white-collar workers in newspaper enterprises, there is little possibility that their professional problems, newspaper problems, and administrative and press-organization problems will be handled through the union. Besides, by the very nature of their work, journalists make greater demands on the organization than the union can satisfy. Therefore, journalists find a more suitable organization in their own particular associations and association, and express the wish that their association become an integral part of the Association of Yugoslav Unions. This means that two professional organizations will exist in some printing enterprises, as they do in universities, various schools, and some other educational establishments.

The 13th Plenum ruled as follows regarding the application of the industrial principle of organization in the Union of Educated Workers:

"Because of the strict application of the industrial principle of organization to educated workers, insufficient account was taken of the specific work conditions and duties which faced educated workers; diverse work forms were not established through which workers could develop their everyday activity and over-all work directly toward their professional, ideological, political, and cultural development, and thus successfully perform the duties for which the Third Plenum of the Federal Government of Yugoslavia had made them responsible."

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In the future, therefore, the industrial principle of organization, which calls for a single union organization in a single enterprise or establishment, will not be applied to schools, gymnasiums, and other educational establishments which have joined the Union of Teachers and Secondary School Instructors; universities and other advanced schools whose teaching personnel is organized in associations included in the Association of Yugoslav Unions; establishments where sculptors who are members of the Association of Yugoslav Sculptors work; printing enterprises and establishments, which have journalists who are members of the Association of Yugoslav Journalists; and large organizations.

The industrial principle of organization is not to be departed from generally but only in exceptional cases and individual situations. It will be departed from only where its further application represents forcible patterning and bureaucratic obstruction to the development of union organizations toward further progress and democratization.

Higher unions and main councils should offer over-all help to the Association of Yugoslav Unions. Wherever municipal organizations of individual associations exist, they should be directly connected with higher unions.

Republic organs of associations are connected with the main councils of the Association of Unions and coordinate their work with them. Associations which do not have branches and organizations in republic centers but are of republic character and are connected with the main councils should coordinate their work with the unions of the large republic centers.

The organizational structure of associations is still not completely worked out everywhere. The main and higher councils should help them in their organization, professional and cultural work, economic questions, care for members, financial activity, etc.

Professional associations and technical societies have justified their existence as a necessary and beneficial influence in the social life of Yugoslav workers. They lay out new completed work areas and methods. They make possible the broader influence of union organizations on workers, and strengthen unity and solidarity between manual and intellectual workers.

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